

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An information processing system, ~~comprising~~ including a first server computing device, the first server computing device including:

a main processor to execute one or more server applications, and

an intelligent network interface controller including a protocol processor,

wherein the intelligent network interface controller includes a configuration to:

~~a first computing device configured to:~~

~~receive a data stream containing~~ first information that has been formed by the main processor according to a server application software instructions; and

~~independent of the application software instructions; form second information that is independent of the server application~~ for causing a ~~second client~~ computing device to perform an operation; and

~~in response to receiving the data stream containing the first information;~~ wherein the protocol processor includes a configuration to:

execute protocol stack instructions to create one or more packets that include at least the first and second information; and

output the one or more packets to the ~~second client~~ computing device.

2. (Currently amended) The system of [[claim]] Claim 1, wherein the ~~first computing device is configured to:~~

~~in response to receiving the data stream containing the first information, execute the protocol stack instructions for creating~~ intelligent network interface controller includes a configuration to output the one or more packets in accordance with a network protocol.

3. (Currently amended) The system of [[claim]] Claim 2, wherein the network protocol is TCP/IP.

4. (Currently amended) The system of [[claim]] Claim 2, wherein the network protocol is UDP/IP.

5. (Currently amended) The system of [[claim]] Claim 2, wherein the first ~~computing device is configured to:~~

~~output~~ protocol processor includes a configuration to output the one or more packets to the second client computing device through a network in accordance with the network protocol.

6. (Currently amended) The system of [[claim]] Claim 5, wherein the network is a global computer network.

7. (Currently amended) The system of [[claim]] Claim 5, wherein the network is an IP network.

8. (Currently amended) The system of [[claim]] Claim 1, wherein the first ~~computing device is configured to:~~

~~in response to receiving the data stream containing the first information, execute the protocol stack instructions for creating~~ protocol processor includes a configuration to create the one or more packets, wherein the one or more packets each contain a header portion and a data portion, the header portions each including include at least one header, and the data portions of the one or more packets collectively including include at least the first and second information.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently amended) The system of ~~claim 9~~ Claim 1, wherein the ~~operation~~ second information includes ~~maintaining a session an HTTP session identifier~~, and wherein the first server computing device includes a configuration to maintain a session by receiving one or more packets from the client computing device containing the HTTP session identifier.

11. (Currently amended) The system of [[claim]] Claim 10, wherein the operation includes maintaining a session by addressing a subsequent packet to the first server computing device.

12. (Currently amended) The system of ~~claim 9~~ Claim 1, wherein the operation includes modifying state information.

13. (Currently amended) A method performed by an intelligent network interface controller of a first server computing device of an information processing system, the method comprising:

receiving ~~a data stream containing~~ first information that has been formed according to application software instructions executed by a main processor of the first server computing device;

independent of the application software instructions, forming second information for causing a ~~second client~~ computing device to perform an operation;

in response to receiving the ~~data stream containing~~ the first information, executing using a protocol stack processor of the intelligent network interface controller to execute protocol stack instructions to create one or more packets that include at least the first and second information; and

outputting the one or more packets to the ~~second client~~ computing device.

14. (Currently amended) The method of [[claim]] Claim 13, wherein the method comprises:

in response to receiving the ~~data stream containing~~ the first information, executing the using a protocol stack processor of the intelligent network interface controller to execute protocol stack instructions for creating the one or more packets in accordance with a network protocol.

15. (Currently amended) The method of ~~[[claim]]~~ Claim 14, wherein the network protocol is TCP/IP.

16. (Currently amended) The method of ~~[[claim]]~~ Claim 14, wherein the network protocol is UDP/IP.

17. (Currently amended) The method of ~~[[claim]]~~ Claim 14, wherein the method comprises:

outputting the one or more packets to the ~~second~~ client computing device through a network in accordance with the network protocol.

18. (Currently amended) The method of ~~[[claim]]~~ Claim 17, wherein the network is a global computer network.

19. (Currently amended) The method of ~~[[claim]]~~ Claim 17, wherein the network is an IP network.

20. (Currently amended) The method of ~~[[claim]]~~ Claim 13, wherein the method comprises:

in response to receiving the ~~data stream containing the~~ first information, ~~executing using a protocol stack processor of the intelligent network interface controller to execute~~ the protocol stack instructions for creating the one or more packets, wherein the one or more packets each contain a header portion and a data portion, the header portions each ~~including~~ include at least one header, and the data portions of the one or more packets collectively ~~including~~ include at least the first and second information.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently amended) The method of ~~claim 21~~ Claim 13, wherein the operation includes maintaining a session and the second information includes an HTTP session identifier.

and wherein the first server computing device maintains a session by receiving one or more packets from the client computing device containing the HTTP session identifier.

23. (Currently amended) The method of [[claim]] Claim 22, wherein the operation includes maintaining a session by addressing a subsequent packet to the first computing device.

24. (Currently amended) The method of [[claim 21]] Claim 13, wherein the operation includes modifying state information.

25. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium containing instructions that, when executed by an intelligent network interface controller associated with a first server computing device, cause the ~~first computing device~~ intelligent network interface controller to process information by performing a method comprising:

~~receiving a data stream containing~~ first information that has been formed according to application software instructions executed by a main processor of a first server computing device;

independent of the application software instructions, forming second information for causing a ~~second~~ client computing device to perform an operation; and

in response to receiving the ~~data stream containing the~~ first information, ~~executing using a protocol stack processor of the intelligent network interface controller to execute~~ protocol stack instructions to create one or more packets that include at least the first and second information[[:]] and ~~outputting output~~ the one or more packets to the ~~second client~~ computing device.

26. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of [[claim]] Claim 25, wherein the one or more packets are formed in accordance with a network protocol.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of [[claim]] Claim 25, wherein the computer-readable medium is a memory of a computer device.

29-31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of [[claim]] Claim 25, wherein the second information comprises session maintenance information.

33. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of [[claim]] Claim 32, wherein the second information comprises an address of a second server computing device that causes the ~~second~~ client computing device to migrate an existing session to the second server computing device.

34. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of [[claim]] Claim 25, wherein the second information comprises a cookie.

35-44. (Canceled)

45. (Currently amended) The information processing system of [[claim]] Claim 1, wherein the second information causes the ~~second~~ client computing device to migrate an existing session to a second server computing device.

46. (Currently amended) The information processing system of [[claim]] Claim 1, wherein the second information comprises a cookie including an address of a second server computing device.

47. (Currently amended) The method of [[claim]] Claim 13, wherein the second information causes the ~~second~~ client computing device to migrate an existing session to a second server computing device.

48. (Currently amended) The method of [[claim]] Claim 13, wherein the second information comprises a cookie including an address of a second server computing device.